

Middlebury March 31 1811

Dear Sir

Your fav^r of the 6th Inst. was recd.
& you ask, why not answerd; true, can no
reason be given, let us see, 'twas recd. during
the sitting of our C. C. t. no time then, next
day after that you went to Bridport on Arbitration
now comes Sunday, partly answerd ^{two} letters from
father & brother of older date, now comes Monday
C. C. t. at Rutland, must post off there, now
just got back, whole time occupied, no clock
to assist. Aiken admitted, & gone the L.
knows where, heard of him last in Burlington,
he is, no doubt, seeking a resting place.
I intended to have written you to attend
to a cause at Woodstock for me, but in
the hurry of business that has gone, I
conclude by your letter that business
does not flow in to you with a full tide,
you say, only one suit for Deft.!! This
won't do, Ephraim, six months on the ground
& only one suit, & that for Deft.!! This won't
do. you must inspire a more litigious
spirit than this, or quit. tis the golden
period with you, let it not pass unimproved.
I advise you to settle in some place where
business is done, & there will always be a
chance to step in for a share, but if you
mean to do business go where business is done
& if you are not in that place, seek such
an one; you are young, & a long race be
fore you, be carefull how you start in
the beginning, the prize will be yours if
you set out right, & hold well your course.

I don't feel sufficient confidence in my own opinion to point out to you any particular place, but I am unwilling to have you settle down where you are without some more flattering prospects than are expressed in your letter, above alluded to. - you ought not to content yourself there, merely because you have your board free of expense; you must or ought to remember, that a little stock must be laid in against a wet day, sickness or the decays of age, & ^{season} for that, is the season of health & vigour, which you possess in an adequate degree.

If you wish for a little further time to look a broad, & make the necessary enquiries, to a future establishment of yourself, my office & library are free to you, & if you wish to remain a month or ^{of months} you may fair as I do free of expense, & indeed if you are undetermined where to settle or if you are not determined to remain where you are, I should ^{think} it well for you to return & stay with me a few months, I have business enough to keep you employed. & there is a chance for improvement. This however you will not take as dictatorial, but merely advisory. I feel extremely anxious for you, and all the aids within my public powers to extend to you, will be cheerfully extended.

I take for true your statement, as respects your business prospects where you are - and to my mind the result clearly is, that there are many better places, & but few worse; ~~those where~~ you know many considerations come into view, in fixing a residence for life, & those always have reference as well to the future at the present time, resting in a degree on probable

and ordinary calculations, & such too as is within
the power & capacity of almost every one to make.
perhaps you will do well to amplify & weigh
what is here only suggested.

Now for the law questions.

A & B. are prosecuted by G. Juror for assaulting C.
A. is acquitted, & B. fined. & now C. commences a
private suit for damages - can A. plead his ac-
quittal in pub. proc. in bar? answer - no.

2. Question.

A & B. minors are sued for assault & battery.
ought not the parent or guardian to be notified.
answer. - he had -

3. qu. is a complaint by G. Juror agt. 2 for the
assault & battery of 2 - good - and in a public
prosecution I think it is. as such offenses
includes breach of the peace -
but A & B. could not join in an action of ass. &
vs C & D. - because the battery of it is not the bat.
of B. - & the bat. is our entire act, & the
damages entire as to B. -

I think my business is increasing - tho
my health is not good. & in fact not able
to attend at my office, as much as is
necessary. I am in hopes the warm season
which is fast approaching will prove favorable
in respect.

friends in NY generally well.

Mrs. D. desires to be remembered to you -

I am with sentiments of esteem & friendship
yours &c

J. Doolittle

P.S. rem. me to Judge L. with respect &c

John Doolittle Esq:
1811

Arrived -
April 11
1811

James J. Doolittle Esq:

Chester

Oct.